

**PUNE VIDYARTHI GRIHA'S COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND  
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# **IITB DSP MOOC INTERNSHIP**

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# IMAGE STEGANOGRAPHY USING DISCRETE WAVELET TRANSFORM

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# MOTIVE:

Image Steganography is the practice of concealing an image within another, such that no one, other than the sender and the intended recipient, even suspects the existence of the image.

One very famous way of doing this is to use Cryptography. But the problem with this method is that the encrypted message is easily identifiable as it is not directly legible. If someone intercepts this, they would try hard to decrypt it or may not let this message pass ahead.

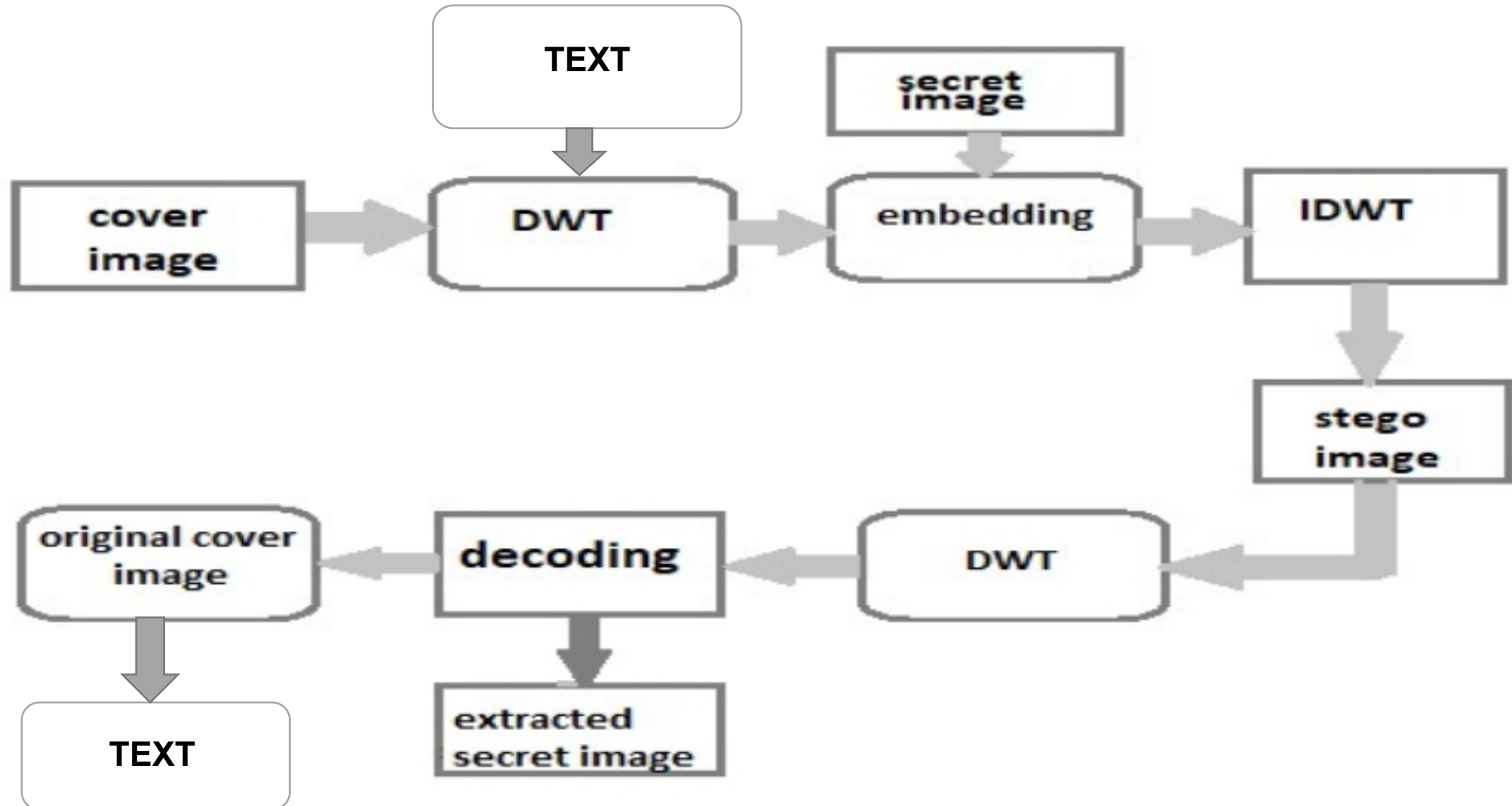
## Message

“Confidential Application  
Assignment”

## Encrypted Message

a743c52e9f1565b32e4f87  
7745db0cbad65e945360f  
ecf4a39a8ca9f21fb9c2

# BLOCK DIAGRAM:



# MAJOR STEPS

- Embedding text in Cover\_Image using DWT[PART-1]
- Image steganography using DWT[PART-2]

Unlike Cryptography, where an encrypted message is obvious, Steganography is a form of Security through Obscurity.

# WHAT IS IMAGE STEGANOGRAPHY?

It is the process of concealing an image within another, such that no one, other than the sender and the intended recipient, even suspects the existence of the image.

Unlike Cryptography, where an encrypted message is obvious, Steganography is a form of Security through Obscurity.

# WHAT ARE DISCRET WAVELET TRANSFORM?

The Discrete Wavelet Transform is similar to the Discrete Fourier Transform other than the fact that instead of decomposing a signal into complex exponentials, it decomposes it into mutually orthogonal functions which are localized in both the real and Fourier space, called wavelets.

These wavelets can be of various types. In our approach, we shall be using the **Haar Wavelet**.

# WHAT IS MULTI STEGANOGRAPHY?

- The main idea of this advancement is to embed more than one message.
- The hidden secrets can be used as *real* and *false messages*, respectively.
- This may find many different applications, especially in situations where communication channel between a transmitter and a receiver is closely monitored and the warden suspects that the steganography is used.

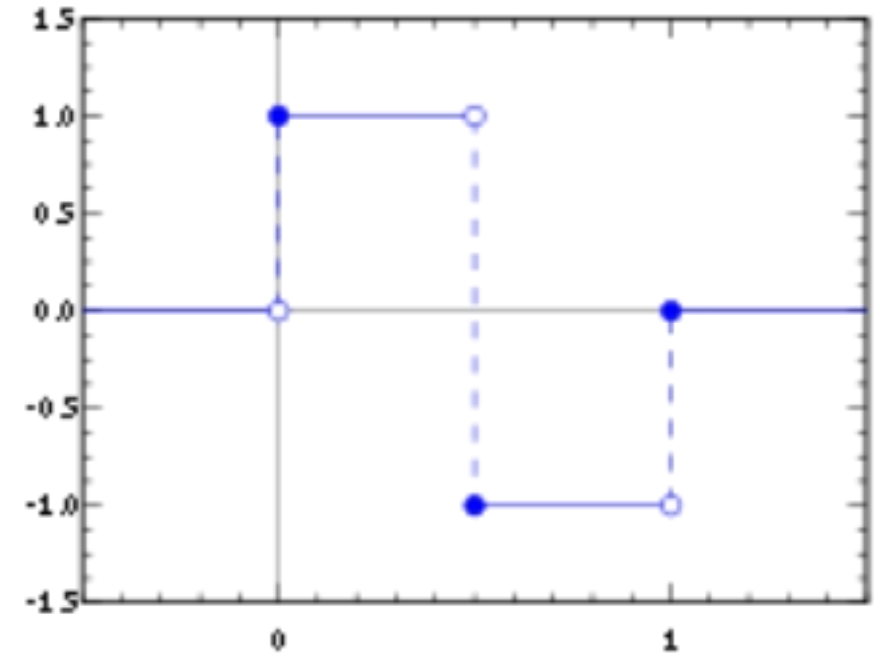


# THE HAAR WAVELET

The Haar Wavelet is a sequence of rescaled 'square-shaped' functions which together form an orthonormal basis.

$$H_4 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ \sqrt{2} & -\sqrt{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & -\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

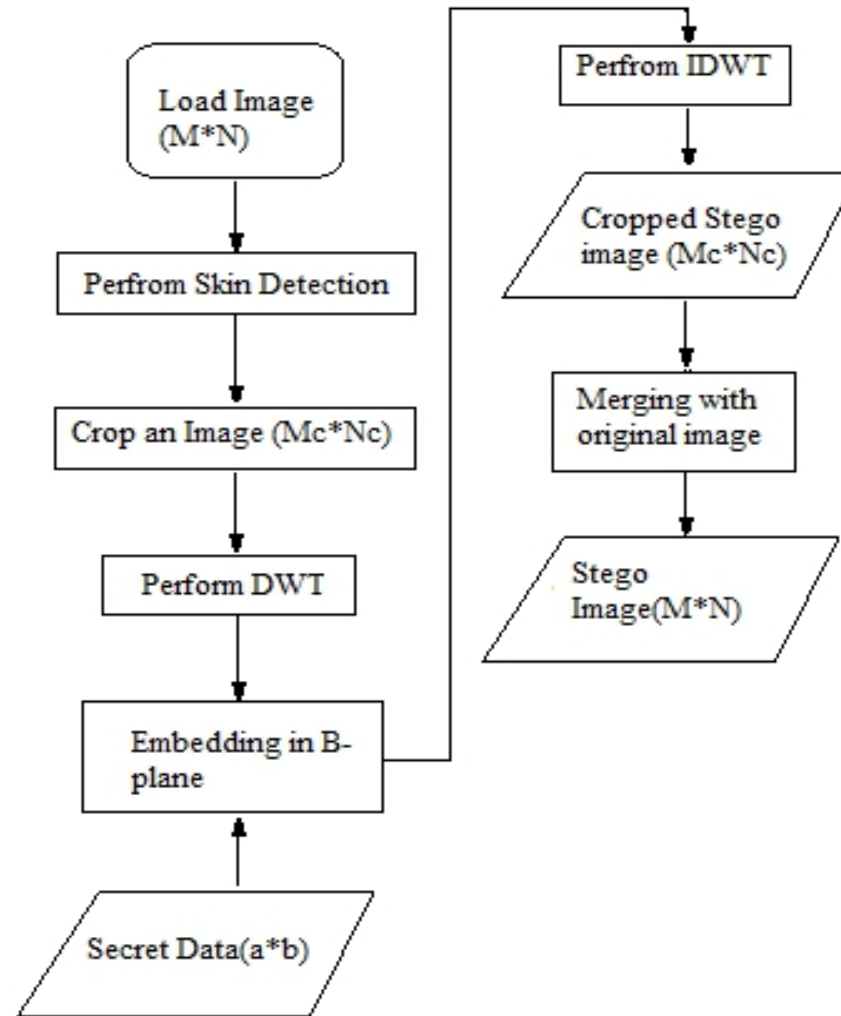
The 4x4 Haar Transform matrix



# TERMINOLOGY

- Secret Image - The image which we want to hide
- Cover Image - The image in which we want to hide the secret image
- Stegano Image - The resultant image which we want to transmit
- Embedding Procedure - Culmination of the Secret Image and the Cover Image into the Stegano Image before transmission.
- Extraction Procedure - Retrieval of the Secret Image from the Stegano Image after receipt of the message.

# EMBEDDING TEXT IN COVER\_IMAGE USING DWT[PART-1]



Flowchart of Embedding Process

# STEPS

Step 1: Once image is loaded, apply skin tone detection on cover image. This will produce mask image that contains skin and non skin pixels.

Step 2: Ask user to perform cropping interactively on mask image ( $M_c \times N_c$ ). After this original image is also cropped of same area. Cropped area must be in an exact square form as we have to perform Haar DWT later and cropped area should contain skin region such as face, hand etc since we will hide data in skin pixels of one of the sub-band of DWT. Here cropping is performed for security reasons. Cropped rectangle will act as key at receiving side. If it knows then only data retrieval is possible. Eavesdropper may try to perform DWT on whole image; in such a case attack will fail as we are applying DWT on specific cropped region only.

Step 3: Apply DWT to only cropped area ( $M_c \times N_c$ ) not hole image ( $M \times N$ ). This yields 4 sub-bands denoted as HLL, HHL, HLH, and HHH. (All 4 sub-band are of same size of  $M_c/2, N_c/2$ ). Payload of image to hold secret data is determined based on no. of skin pixels present in one of high frequency sub-band in which data will be hidden.

Step 4: Perform embedding of secret data in one of sub-band that we obtained earlier by tracing skin pixels in that sub-band. Other than the LL, low frequency sub-band any high frequency sub-band can be selected for embedding as LL sub-band contains significant information. Embedding in LL sub-band affects image quality greatly. We have chosen high

frequency HH sub-band. While embedding, secret data will not be embedded in all pixels of DWT sub-band but to only those pixels that are skin pixels

# Image steganography using DWT[PART-2]

## STEPS FOR EMBEDDING

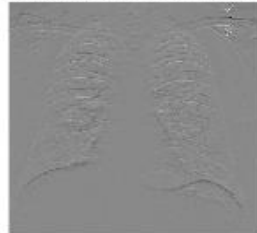
\_step1:With the Discrete Wavelet Transform, convert -

- the cover image, I, into the 4 subimages: (ICA, ICH, ICV, ICD) and
- the secret image, S, into the 4 subimages: (SCA, SCH, SCV, SCD)

Approximation Coefficients, ICA



Horizontal Detail Coefficients, ICH



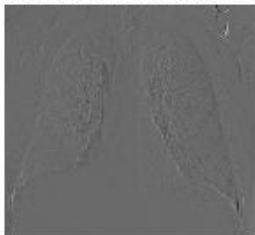
Approximation Coefficients, SCA



Horizontal Detail Coefficients, SCH



Vertical Detail Coefficients, ICV



Diagonal Detail Coefficients, ICD



Vertical Detail Coefficients, SCV



Diagonal Detail Coefficients, SCD



DWT of Cover Image

DWT of Secret Image

step2:Each of SCA, ICA and ICD are partitioned into 4x4 pixels -

- $SCA = \{BS_i, 1 \leq i \leq ns\}$
- $ICA = \{BC_j, 1 \leq j \leq nc\}$
- $ICD = \{BD_k, 1 \leq k \leq nc\}$

where  $BS_i$ ,  $BC_j$  and  $BD_k$  represent the  $i$ th block in SCA,  $j$ th block in ICA,  $k$ th block in ICD respectively,  $ns$  is the total number of  $4 \times 4$  blocks in SCA and  $nc$  is the total number of the  $4 \times 4$  blocks in each of ICA and ICH.

step3:For each block  $BS_i$  in SCA, the best matched block  $BC_j$  of minimum error in ICA is searched by using the root mean squared error (RMSE).

The first secret key  $K_1$  consisting of the addresses,  $j$ , of the best matched blocks in ICA.

step4:Calculate the error block  $EB_i$  between  $BS_i$  and  $BC_j$  as follows:

$$EB_i = (BC_j - BS_i) / K_3$$

Where  $K_3$  is a secret key chosen randomly between 100 and 170.

step5:For each error block  $E_{Bi}$  , the best matched block  $BD_k$  in ICD is searched for using the RMSE criteria as before, and that  $BD_k$  is replaced with the error block  $E_{Bi}$  .

The second secret key  $K_2$  consists of the addresses,  $k$  of the best matched blocks in ICD.

step6:Repeat the steps 3 to 5 until all the produced error blocks are embedded in ICD.

step7:Apply the inverse DWT to the sub-images - ICA, ICV, ICH and the modified ICD to obtain the stegano image.





## STEPS FOR EXTRACTION

Step1:With the Discrete Wavelet Transform, convert the stegano image, G, into the four subimages: (GCA, GCH, GCV, GCD).

Step2:The extracted secret image coefficients, eBSi , are obtained by -

$$eBSi = eBCK1(i) - K3 * eBDK2(i)$$

where

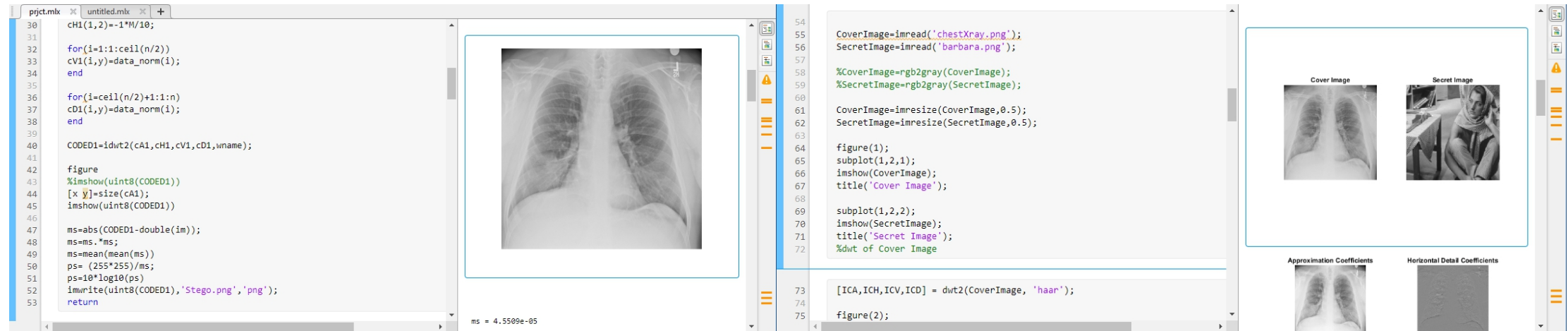
- $\{ eBCj \} = GCA$
- $\{ eBDk \} = GCD$

Step3:Repeat Step 2 until all secret blocks are extracted and form the subimage, eSCA, as follows:

$$eSCA = \{ eBSi \}$$

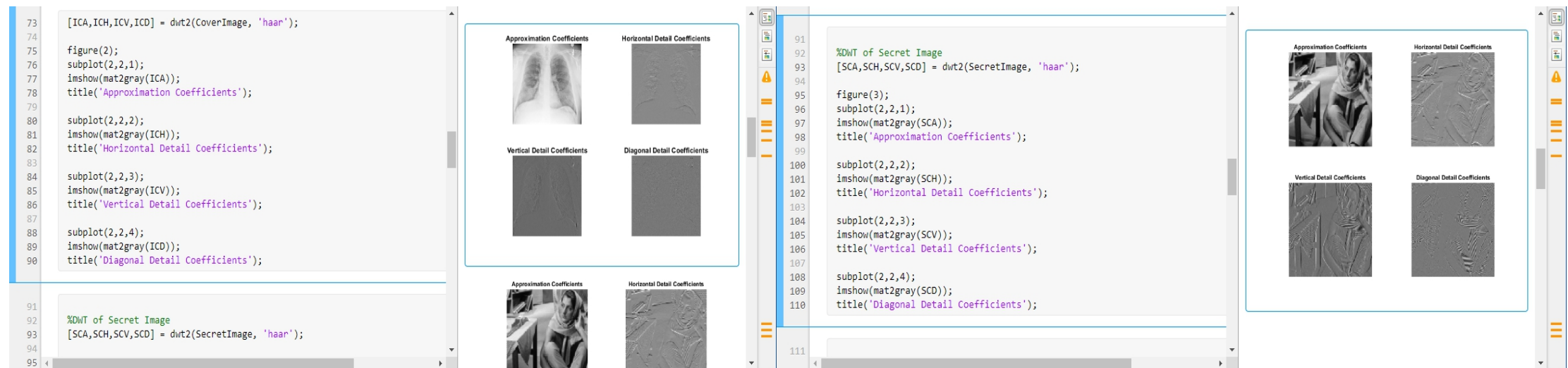
Step4:Assign each of eSCD, eSCV and eSCH as zeros and apply the inverse DWT to obtain the retrieved Secret Image.

# RESULTS



DWT of cover image

DWT of secret image




## Embedding

```

111 %Embedding
112 m=4;
113 BS = mat2cell(SCA, repmat(m,1,size(SCA,1)/m), repmat(m,1,size(SCA,2)/m));
114 BC = mat2cell(ICA, repmat(m,1,size(ICA,1)/m), repmat(m,1,size(ICA,2)/m));
115 BD = mat2cell(ICD, repmat(m,1,size(ICD,1)/m), repmat(m,1,size(ICD,2)/m));
116
117 BS = reshape(BS,1,size(BS,1)*size(BS,2));
118 BC = reshape(BC,1,size(BC,1)*size(BC,2));
119 BD = reshape(BD,1,size(BD,1)*size(BD,2));
120
121 EB=BS;
122
123 K1 = zeros(1,size(BS,2));
124 K2 = zeros(1,size(BS,2));
125 K3=100;
126 MSE1 = zeros(size(BS,2),size(BC,2));
127 MSE2 = zeros(size(BS,2),size(BC,2));
128 for i=1:size(BS,2)
129     for j=1:size(BC,2)
130         if any(ismember(K1,j))
131             MSE1(i,j)=999999;
132         else
133             MSE1(i,j) = immse(BS{1},BC{j});
134         end
135     end
136

```



## Extraction

```

175 %Decoding.m
176 im=imread('cb1.png');
177 [cA11,cH11,cV11,cD11] = dwt2(CODED1,'haar');
178 data=[]
179 data_norm=[];
180 n=ceil(abs(cH11(1,1)*10));
181 M=ceil(abs(cH11(1,2)*10));
182
183 for(i=1:1:ceil(n/2))
184     data_norm(i)=cV11(i,y);
185 end
186
187 for(i=ceil(n/2)+1:1:n)
188     data_norm(i)=cD11(i,y);
189 end
190 data=ceil(data_norm*M)-1;
191 msg1='';
192 for(i=1:length(data))
193     msg1=strcat(msg,data(i));
194 end
195
196 msg1

```

data =  
[]

msg1 = 'The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is Indias cour

## Final output

```

186 for(i=ceil(n/2)+1:1:n)
187     data_norm(i)=cD11(i,y);
188 end
189 data=ceil(data_norm*M)-1;
190 msg1='';
191 for(i=1:length(data))
192     msg1=strcat(msg,data(i));
193 end
194
195
196 msg1

```

```

197 [GCA,GCH,GCV,GCD] = dwt2(SteganoImage, 'haar');
198 figure(1);
199 subplot(1,2,1);
200 imshow(CoverImage);
201 title('Cover Image');
202
203 subplot(1,2,2);
204 imshow(SecretImage);
205 title('Secret Image');
206
207

```

msg1 = 'The National Investigation Agency (NIA) is Indias coun



# REFERENCE

- Vijay Kumar, Dinesh Kumar, "Performance Evaluation of DWT Based Image Steganography," IEEE 2nd International Advance Computing Conference (IACC), 2010
- Po-Yueh Chen and Yue-chi Tseng, "A Study of DWT based steganography using Coefficient analysis," pp.242-248, 2007
- Pommer and A. Vhl, "Wavelet Packet methods for multimedia compression and encryption," IEEE Pacific Rim Conference on Communications, Computer and signal processing, pp.1-4, Victoria, Canada, 2001
- MAB. Younes, A. Jantan, "Image Encryption using Block-Based Transformation Algorithm," International Journal of Computer Science, vol. 35, issue 1, pp.15-23, 2008
- Ahmed A. Abdelwahab and Lobha A. Hassan, "A Discrete Wavelet Transform based Technique for image data hiding," 2nd National Radio Science Conference, pp. 1-9, Egypt, 2008

THANK YOU